

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF  
RECORD COPY

(PCT Rule 24.2(a))

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

KOIKE, Akira  
11 Mori Building  
6-4, Toranomon 2-chome  
Minato-ku  
Tokyo 105-0001  
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 14 September 1998 (14.09.98)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference SK98PCT63	International application No. PCT/JP98/03864

The applicant is hereby notified that the International Bureau has received the record copy of the international application as detailed below.

Name(s) of the applicant(s) and State(s) for which they are applicants:

SONY CORPORATION (for all designated States except US)

SEYA, Kenji (for US)

International filing date : 28 August 1998 (28.08.98)  
Priority date(s) claimed : 29 August 1997 (29.08.97)  
Date of receipt of the record copy  
by the International Bureau : 14 September 1998 (14.09.98)  
List of designated Offices :

National : AU, US


## ATTENTION

The applicant should carefully check the data appearing in this Notification. In case of any discrepancy between these data and the indications in the international application, the applicant should immediately inform the International Bureau.

In addition, the applicant's attention is drawn to the information contained in the Annex, relating to:

- ☒ time limits for entry into the national phase  
☒ confirmation of precautionary designations  
☐ requirements regarding priority documents

A copy of this Notification is being sent to the receiving Office and to the International Searching Authority.

<p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35</p>	<p>Authorized officer:</p> <p>M. Sakai </p> <p>Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38</p>
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## INFORMATION ON TIME LIMITS FOR ENTERING THE NATIONAL PHASE

The applicant is reminded that the "national phase" must be entered before each of the designated Offices indicated in the Notification of Receipt of Record Copy (Form PCT/IB/301) by paying national fees and furnishing translations, as prescribed by the applicable national laws.

The time limit for performing these procedural acts is **20 MONTHS** from the priority date or, for those designated States which the applicant elects in a demand for international preliminary examination or in a later election, **30 MONTHS** from the priority date, provided that the election is made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date. Some designated (or elected) Offices have fixed time limits which expire even later than 20 or 30 months from the priority date. In other Offices an extension of time or grace period, in some cases upon payment of an additional fee, is available.

In addition to these procedural acts, the applicant may also have to comply with other special requirements applicable in certain Offices. **It is the applicant's responsibility** to ensure that the necessary steps to enter the national phase are taken in a timely fashion. Most designated Offices do not issue reminders to applicants in connection with the entry into the national phase.

**For detailed information about the procedural acts to be performed to enter the national phase before each designated Office, the applicable time limits and possible extensions of time or grace periods, and any other requirements, see the relevant Chapters of Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide. Information about the requirements for filing a demand for international preliminary examination is set out in Chapter IX of Volume I of the PCT Applicant's Guide.**

GR and ES became bound by PCT Chapter II on 7 September 1996 and 6 September 1997, respectively, and may, therefore, be elected in a demand or a later election filed on or after 7 September 1996 and 6 September 1997, respectively, regardless of the filing date of the international application. (See second paragraph above.)

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

## CONFIRMATION OF PRECAUTIONARY DESIGNATIONS

This notification lists only specific designations made under Rule 4.9(a) in the request. It is important to check that these designations are correct. Errors in designations can be corrected where precautionary designations have been made under Rule 4.9(b). The applicant is hereby reminded that any precautionary designations may be confirmed according to Rule 4.9(c) before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date. If it is not confirmed, it will automatically be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant. There will be no reminder and no invitation. Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying the designated State concerned (with an indication of the kind of protection or treatment desired) and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.

## REQUIREMENTS REGARDING PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

For applicants who have not yet complied with the requirements regarding priority documents, the following is recalled.

Where the priority of an earlier national, regional or international application is claimed, the applicant must submit a copy of the said earlier application, certified by the authority with which it was filed ("the priority document") to the receiving Office (which will transmit it to the International Bureau) or directly to the International Bureau, before the expiration of 16 months from the priority date, provided that any such priority document may still be submitted to the International Bureau before that date of international publication of the international application, in which case that document will be considered to have been received by the International Bureau on the last day of the 16-month time limit (Rule 17.1(a)).

Where the priority document is issued by the receiving Office, the applicant may, instead of submitting the priority document, request the receiving Office to prepare and transmit the priority document to the International Bureau. Such request must be made before the expiration of the 16-month time limit and may be subjected by the receiving Office to the payment of a fee (Rule 17.1(b)).

If the priority document concerned is not submitted to the International Bureau or if the request to the receiving Office to prepare and transmit the priority document has not been made (and the corresponding fee, if any, paid) within the applicable time limit indicated under the preceding paragraphs, any designated State may disregard the priority claim, provided that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

Where several priorities are claimed, the priority date to be considered for the purposes of computing the 16-month time limit is the filing date of the earliest application whose priority is claimed.

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING  
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL  
OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

KOIKE, Akira  
11 Mori Building  
6-4, Toranomon 2-chome  
Minato-ku  
Tokyo 105-0001  
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 14 September 1998 (14.09.98)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference SK98PCT63	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
International application No. PCT/JP98/03864	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 August 1998 (28.08.98)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 29 August 1997 (29.08.97)
Applicant SONY CORPORATION et al	

- The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt (except where the letters "NR" appear in the right-hand column) by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the earlier application(s) indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, or by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- This updates and replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents.
- An asterisk(\*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b). In such a case, **the attention of the applicant is directed** to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which was not received by the International Bureau or which the applicant did not request the receiving Office to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau, as provided by Rule 17.1(a) or (b), respectively. In such a case, **the attention of the applicant is directed** to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
29 Augu 1997 (29.08.97)	9/234127	JP	14 Sept 1998 (14.09.98)

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

M. Sakai

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

WO 99/12152  
PCT/JP98/03864

PCT

## NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

KOIKE, Akira  
11 Mori Building  
6-4, Toranomom 2-chome  
Minato-ku  
Tokyo 105-0001  
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 11 March 1999 (11.03.99)		IMPORTANT NOTICE	
Applicant's or agent's file reference SK98PCT63			
International application No. PCT/JP98/03864	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 August 1998 (28.08.98)	Priority date (day/month/year) 29 August 1997 (29.08.97)	
Applicant SONY CORPORATION et al			

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:  
AU,US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:  
None

The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 11 March 1999 (11.03.99) under No. WO 99/12152

### REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

### REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer J. Zahra
Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

PCT



## 国際調査報告

(法8条、法施行規則第40、41条)  
[PCT18条、PCT規則43、44]

出願人又は代理人 の書類記号 SK98PCT63	今後の手続きについては、国際調査報告の送付通知様式(PCT/ISA/220)及び下記5を参照すること。	
国際出願番号 PCT/J P98/03864	国際出願日 (日.月.年) 28.08.98	優先日 (日.月.年) 29.08.97
出願人(氏名又は名称) ソニー株式会社		

国際調査機関が作成したこの国際調査報告を法施行規則第41条(PCT18条)の規定に従い出願人に送付する。  
この写しは国際事務局にも送付される。

この国際調査報告は、全部で 3 ページである。

☐ この調査報告に引用された先行技術文献の写しも添付されている。

## 1. 国際調査報告の基礎

- a. 言語は、下記に示す場合を除くほか、この国際出願がされたものに基づき国際調査を行った。  
☐ この国際調査機関に提出された国際出願の翻訳文に基づき国際調査を行った。
- b. この国際出願は、ヌクレオチド又はアミノ酸配列を含んでおり、次の配列表に基づき国際調査を行った。  
☐ この国際出願に含まれる書面による配列表  
☐ この国際出願と共に提出されたフレキシブルディスクによる配列表  
☐ 出願後に、この国際調査機関に提出された書面による配列表  
☐ 出願後に、この国際調査機関に提出されたフレキシブルディスクによる配列表  
☐ 出願後に提出した書面による配列表が出願時における国際出願の開示の範囲を超える事項を含まない旨の陳述書の提出があった。  
☐ 書面による配列表に記載した配列とフレキシブルディスクによる配列表に記録した配列が同一である旨の陳述書の提出があった。

2. ☐ 請求の範囲の一部の調査ができない(第I欄参照)。

3. ☐ 発明の単一性が欠如している(第II欄参照)。

4. 発明の名称は ☒ 出願人が提出したものを承認する。  
☐ 次に示すように国際調査機関が作成した。

5. 要約は ☒ 出願人が提出したものを承認する。  
☐ 第III欄に示されているように、法施行規則第47条(PCT規則38.2(b))の規定により国際調査機関が作成した。出願人は、この国際調査報告の発送の日から1カ月以内にこの国際調査機関に意見を提出することができる。

6. 要約書とともに公表される図は、  
 第 3 図とする。 ☒ 出願人が示したとおりである。 ☐ なし  
☐ 出願人は図を示さなかった。  
☐ 本図は発明の特徴を一層よく表している。

## A. 発明の属する分野の分類 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int Cl<sup>6</sup> G10K15/04 G10L3/00 G06F3/00 G06F3/16 G06F17/30

## B. 調査を行った分野

## 調査を行った最小限資料 (国際特許分類 (IPC))

Int Cl<sup>6</sup> G10K15/04 G10L3/00 G06F3/00 G06F3/16 G06F17/30

最小限資料以外の資料で調査を行った分野に含まれるもの

日本国実用新案公報 1926-1996年

日本国登録実用新案公報 1994-1998年

国際調査で使用した電子データベース (データベースの名称、調査に使用した用語)

## C. 関連すると認められる文献

引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名 及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
<u>A</u>	J P, 03-106673, A (株式会社富士通ゼネラル) 3. 5月 1991 (03. 05. 91), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 09-121325, A (東芝イーエムアイ株式会社) 6. 5 月1997 (06. 05. 97), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 05-20099, U (株式会社ケンウッド) 12. 3月19 93 (12. 03. 93), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 04-107298, U (株式会社ケンウッド) 16. 9月1 992 (16. 09. 92), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>

☒ C欄の続きにも文献が列挙されている。☐ パテントファミリーに関する別紙を参照。

## \* 引用文献のカテゴリー

「A」 特に関連のある文献ではなく、一般的技術水準を示すもの

「E」 国際出願日前の出願または特許であるが、国際出願日以後に公表されたもの

「L」 優先権主張に疑義を提起する文献又は他の文献の発行日若しくは他の特別な理由を確立するために引用する文献 (理由を付す)

「O」 口頭による開示、使用、展示等に言及する文献

「P」 国際出願日前で、かつ優先権の主張の基礎となる出願

の日の後に公表された文献

「T」 国際出願日又は優先日後に公表された文献であって出願と矛盾するものではなく、発明の原理又は理論の理解のために引用するもの

「X」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献のみで発明の新規性又は進歩性がないと考えられるもの

「Y」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献と他の1以上の文献との、当業者にとって自明である組合せによって進歩性がないと考えられるもの

「&amp;」 同一パテントファミリー文献

国際調査を完了した日

01. 12. 98

国際調査報告の発送日

15.12.98

国際調査機関の名称及びあて先

日本国特許庁 (ISA/J P)

郵便番号100-8915

東京都千代田区霞が関三丁目4番3号

特許庁審査官 (権限のある職員)

南 義明

印

5 H

9381

電話番号 03-3581-1101 内線 3533

C (続き) . 関連すると認められる文献		
引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名 及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
<u>A</u>	J P, 04-349497, A (ヤマハ株式会社) 4. 12月1992 (04. 12. 92), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 06-324677, A (株式会社河合楽器製作所) 25. 11月1994 (25. 11. 94), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 09-50287, A (ヤマハ株式会社) 18. 2月1997 (18. 02. 97), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>
<u>A</u>	J P, 09-81175, A (東洋通信機械株式会社) 28. 3月1997 (28. 03. 97), ファミリー無し	<u>1-52</u>

# PCT

## REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

International Filing Date

28. 8. 98

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference

(if desired) (12 characters maximum) S K 9 8 P C T 6 3

### Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION

Information Processing Apparatus and Method

### Box No. II APPLICANT

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

SONY CORPORATION

7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome, Shinagawa-ku, TOKYO  
141-0001 JAPAN

☐ This person is also inventor.

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

☐ all designated States

☒ all designated States except the United States of America

☐ the United States of America only

☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

### Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

SEYA Kenji

c/o SONY CORPORATION, 7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome,  
Shinagawa-ku, TOKYO 141-0001 JAPAN

This person is:

☐ applicant only

☒ applicant and inventor

☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

JAPAN

JAPAN

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

☐ all designated States

☐ all designated States except the United States of America

☒ the United States of America only

☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.

### Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:

☒ agent

☐ common representative

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)

(6773) Patent Attorney  
KOIKE Akira

(8633) Patent Attorney  
TAMURA Eiichi

(9667) Patent Attorney  
IGA Seiji

No. 11 Mori Bldg., 6-4, Toranomom 2-chome, Minato-ku,  
TOKYO 105-0001 JAPAN

Telephone No.

03 (3508) 8266

Facsimile No.

03 (3508) 0439

Teleprinter No.

2223384J

☐ Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.



**Box No.V DESIGNATION OF STATES**

The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):

**Regional Patent**

- ☐ **AP ARIPO Patent:** GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT
- ☐ **EA Eurasian Patent:** AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☐ **EP European Patent:** AT Austria, BE Belgium, CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, DE Germany, DK Denmark, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☐ **OA OAPI Patent:** BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line) .....

**National Patent (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line):**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AL Albania .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LS Lesotho .....                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AM Armenia .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LT Lithuania .....                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT Austria .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LU Luxembourg .....                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AU Australia .....                  | <input type="checkbox"/> LV Latvia .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AZ Azerbaijan .....                            | <input type="checkbox"/> MD Republic of Moldova .....                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BA Bosnia and Herzegovina .....                | <input type="checkbox"/> MG Madagascar .....                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BB Barbados .....                              | <input type="checkbox"/> MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ..... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BG Bulgaria .....                              | <input type="checkbox"/> MN Mongolia .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BR Brazil .....                                | <input type="checkbox"/> MW Malawi .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BY Belarus .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> MX Mexico .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CA Canada .....                                | <input type="checkbox"/> NO Norway .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> NZ New Zealand .....                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CN China .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> PL Poland .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CU Cuba .....                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> PT Portugal .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CZ Czech Republic .....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> RO Romania .....                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DE Germany .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> RU Russian Federation .....                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DK Denmark .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SD Sudan .....                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EE Estonia .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SE Sweden .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ES Spain .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> SG Singapore .....                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FI Finland .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SI Slovenia .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GB United Kingdom .....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> SK Slovakia .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GE Georgia .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SL Sierra Leone .....                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GH Ghana .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> TJ Tajikistan .....                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GM Gambia .....                                | <input type="checkbox"/> TM Turkmenistan .....                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GW Guinea-Bissau .....                         | <input type="checkbox"/> TR Turkey .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HR Croatia .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> TT Trinidad and Tobago .....                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HU Hungary .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> UA Ukraine .....                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ID Indonesia .....                             | <input type="checkbox"/> UG Uganda .....                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IL Israel .....                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US United States of America .....       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IS Iceland .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> UZ Uzbekistan .....                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JP Japan .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> VN Viet Nam .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KE Kenya .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> YU Yugoslavia .....                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KG Kyrgyzstan .....                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ZW Zimbabwe .....                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea ..... |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea .....                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KZ Kazakhstan .....                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LC Saint Lucia .....                           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LK Sri Lanka .....                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LR Liberia .....                               |   |

Check-boxes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of a national patent) which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

- ☐ .....
- ☐ .....

**Precautionary Designation Statement:** In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

<b>Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.		
Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:		
		national application: country	regional application: regional Office	international application: receiving Office
item (1) 29.08.97	Patent Application 9-234127	JAPAN		
item (2)				
item (3)				

☐ The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office) identified above as item(s):

\* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, it is mandatory to indicate in the Supplemental Box at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See Supplemental Box.

**Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

**Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA)**  
(if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):

ISA / JP

**Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search** (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):

Date (day/month/year)

Number

Country (or regional Office)

**Box No. VIII CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING**

This international application contains the following number of sheets:

request : 3

description (excluding sequence listing part) : 38

claims : 11

abstract : 1

drawings : 10

sequence listing part of description :

Total number of sheets : 63

This international application is accompanied by the item(s) marked below:

- ☒ fee calculation sheet
- ☐ separate signed power of attorney
- ☐ copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any:
- ☐ statement explaining lack of signature
- ☒ priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s): (1)
- ☐ translation of international application into (language):
- ☐ separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material
- ☐ nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in computer readable form
- ☐ other (specify):

Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:

Fig. 3

Language of filing of the international application:

Japanese

**Box No. IX SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AGENT**

Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).

K O I K E A k i r a

T A M U R A E i i c h i

I G A S e i j i

For receiving Office use only

1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:	2. Drawings:  <input type="checkbox"/> received:  <input type="checkbox"/> not received:
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:	
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):	
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA / JP	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid.

For International Bureau use only

Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re International Application of

International Serial No. PCT/JP98/03864  
International filing date: August 28, 1998.  
For: Information Processing Apparatus and Method

VERIFICATION OF TRANSLATION

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Eiichi Tamura, a member of A.KOIKE & CO., of 11-Mori  
Bldg., 6-4, Toranomom 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105, Japan,  
declares:

(1) that he knows well both the Japanese and English  
languages;

(2) that he translated the above-identified International  
Application from Japanese to English;

(3) that the attached English translation is a true and  
correct translation of the above-identified International  
application to the best of his knowledge and belief; and

(4) that all statements made of his own knowledge are  
true and that all statements made on information and belief are  
believed to be true, and further that these statements are made  
with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are  
punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18USC 1001,  
and that such false statements may jeopardize the validity of the  
application or any patent issuing thereon.

April 20, 1999

Date

Eiichi Tamura

Eiichi Tamura